


Remarks and Arguments

This amendment is submitted subsequent to the filing of a Request for Continued Examination and a telephone interview with the examiner. In that interview, the amendments above were discussed, along with the claims and the prior art of record. With the amendment to Claim 1, it is believed that the claimed invention even more clearly distinguishes over the prior art of record by clarifying that the probes serve as the reporter oligonucleotides, and that the probes are separated from the templates prior to their examination via mass spectrometry. In light of these amendments, reconsideration of Claims 1-34 under the outstanding prior art rejections is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that all the claims be allowed such that the application may be passed to issue. If it is believed that a telephone conference will help expedite prosecution of the application, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due for the filing of this paper to applicants' attorneys' Deposit Account No. 02-3038.

Respectfully submitted


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